



STRATEGIC NEWSLETTER

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JUNE ACTIVITIES

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo Visits Korea

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited the Republic of Korea (ROK) twice in June. Following President Donald Trump's meeting with Kim Jong-Un one day earlier in Singapore, on June 13, Secretary Pompeo flew to Osan Air Base to reassure senior leaders from Japan and the ROK of continued U.S. commitment to alliances with both countries. On June 18, Secretary Pompeo visited the ROK and met with President Moon Jae-In at the Blue House to discuss the way ahead for the ROK-U.S. Alliance.

CFC Welcomes New Chief of Staff

The Combined Forces Command (CFC) has a new Deputy Chief of Staff. ROK Army Maj. Gen. Shin

Sang-Bum assumed responsibility from ROK Army Maj. Gen. Cho Young-Jin, who was awarded the Legion of Merit by the U.S. Army. Maj. Gen. Shin will work side-by-side with Lt. Gen. Michael A. Bills, who serves as both the CFC Chief of Staff and the Eighth Army-Korea Commanding General.

ROK Marks 68th Anniversary of Start of Korean War

June 25 marked 68 years since the Korean War began. ROK Prime Minister Lee Nak-yeon, Gen. Vincent K. Brooks and other representatives from the United Nations Command came together at an event hosted by the ROK Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs at Jamsil Indoor Stadium in Seoul, to remember South Korean veterans and those from 16 other countries that fought for the safety and freedom of the ROK.



U.S. FORCES KOREA

Honoring the Fallen

Pictured above, Gen. Brooks, commander United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, U.S. Forces Korea, accompanied by his wife Dr. Carol P. Brooks, exchanges greetings with a young Korean girl during the 18th Deceased Patriot Cheondo Buddhist Ritual at the Korean National War memorial in Seoul, June 10.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

The following officials saw the three commands first-hand during visits this past month.

- Brig. Gen. Carsten Rasmussen, Danish Defense Attache, June 6
- Mike Pompeo, U.S. Secretary of State, June 13-14
- Lt. Gen. Leslie Smith, U.S. Army Inspector General, June 17-21
- Maj. Gen. Stuart Skeates, U.K. Standing Joint Force Commander, June 18-20
- H.E. Piotr Ostaszewski, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the Republic of Korea, June 18-22
- Maj. Gen. Barbara Holcomb, Commanding General, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, June 19-22
- Ellen M. Lord, U.S. Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, June 20-21
- Maj. Gen. James Pasquarette, Commanding General U.S. Army Japan, June 21-22
- Admiral Philip Davidson, Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, June 23-25
- Maj. Gen. Timothy M. McKeithen, deputy commanding general-National Guard, USARPAC, June 27
- Roni Modica, Director, Special Program Missile Defense, June 27-29
- Jim Mattis, U.S. Secretary of Defense, June 28

FEEDBACK

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U.S. FORCES KOREA

Opening a New USFK and UNC Headquarters

The new USFK Headquarters at Camp Humphreys officially opened on June 29. USFK Commanding Gen. Vincent K. Brooks officiated the opening ceremony of the Gen. John William Vessey, Jr. Headquarters Building, named in honor of the USFK commander from 1976 to 1979. Gen. Vessey was instrumental in convincing President Jimmy Carter of the need to keep U.S. ground forces on the Korean Peninsula. The ribbon cutting ceremony and a tour of the facility, complete with historical exhibits and memorials was attended by ROK Minister of Defence Song Young-moo and Mr. David Vessey, Gen. Vessey's son.